

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 6, 2004 indicates that a supplemental reissue oath/declaration under 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1) must be submitted. A supplemental reissue declaration is enclosed, as executed by all but one of the inventors. The non-signing inventor could not be located after diligent effort. Consequently, a petition to accept the Declaration without the signature of one inventor is filed herewith.

The Office Action also requires the written consent of all assignees owning an undivided interest in the patent. Written consent of the assignee is filed herewith.

The Office Action indicates that the original patent must be received before this reissue application can be allowed. The original patent will be submitted as soon as it is located.

Also, it is requested that the applicant file a certification under 37 CFR 3.73(b) establishing the assignee's ownership of the patent. A certification under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is filed herewith.

Otherwise, the Office Action indicates that claims 1-23, 33-50, 53-57, 67 and 69-85 are allowed. However, a new amendment canceling the allowed claims and adding new claims beginning with claim 86 is required. This is to ensure that the correct claims are printed.

It is noted that on the Office Action Summary page, it is indicated that the shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire 3 months from the mailing date of the Office Action. However, later in the text, the Office Action indicates that the period for reply is set to expire 2 months from the mailing date. As the Docketing Department of the undersigned calendared the date from the 3 month response period indicated on the Office Action Summary page, it is respectfully submitted that a response was not due

until March 6, 2005. Consequently, a two-month extension of time to respond is hereby requested. Any further extension of time that may be required is hereby also requested.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.173(c), the status (i.e. pending or cancelled) of all patent claims is as follows:

Claims 1-85 are canceled.

Claims 86-126 are pending.

A check for a two-month extension of time to respond is enclosed. Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-2425.

Respectfully submitted,

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